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ROUGH RIDER BATTLE FLAG

SKETCH OF ITS HISTORY

No physical symbol of the sentiment of a nation or a people, is more effective than its battle-flag, and no particular battle flag of any nation, tribe or people, ever received so spectacular a salute as did the flag of Roosevelt's Rough Riders, the first banner of the American revolution to wave over Cuban soil on the occasion of its unfurling in the tropical breeze; the flag that now rests in a glass case in the office of the governor of Arizona. On the occasion of Colonel Theodore Roosevelt's return to Phoenix he was presented with the flag in its place of honor and was represented with some of the original pa-

from the flag which it was devised, as a souvenir, together with a historical sketch of the flag, written by Adeline Wallace Irwin, of this city, who helped to make it.

A brief mention of the honors paid the flag on its arrival in Cuba is a fitting prelude to the sketch in question. The first honor it received was the firing of the gun by the captain of B troop of the Rough Ties regiment. Col. McClintock says he and his men were in the rear guard, or rather the last of the regiment, to effect a landing, but he was in a better position than the others, as he had been in the van. The flag he says was probably not the first American flag to reach the shore but it was the first one unfurled and seen by the Spaniards and file of the armed host. Several of the men of the regiment in getting the men and their effects on shore, the landing being by small boats. The flag had been carried by one of the first boats, so that before half the soldiers had stepped on Cuban soil the flag was already active.

Rising almost from the water the flag was a precipitous conical rock or butte perhaps two or three hundred feet high and as soon as the first men landed those still on ship took the flag to the top of the side of that little mountain on the summit of which was a little block house that one of the battalions had been riddling with shells all morning, until the Spaniards deserted it. The flag was hoisted and was watched with interest and it was not long until they noticed the American colors floating in the breeze. McClintock says the distance was too far to tell certainly what flag it was until the decorative ribbons were seen that bore the name of the flag ornamented. Then he turned to his men and said, "Yell you Arizona men, that's our flag."

And they did yell as only an Arizona man yell. One man fell across a cannon and another man who began to toot. Everybody who had a revolver drew it and began firing a salute. By that time the occasion of the enthusiasm was noticed on other vessels and in a few minutes the firing of the revolvers from probably twenty fighting ships was heard.

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When Col. Roosevelt was here last Monday, during the Rough Rider luncheon, Colonel McClintock in behalf of the Woman's Relief Corps of J. W. Owens Post G. A. R., and Mrs. Irvin, one of its most enthusiastic members, presented him a goodly strip of the red and white silk from which the flag was made, together with the following story of its origin, its mission and the patriotic men who carried it to Cuba and brought it back to Phoenix:

It Is Absolutely Free

belonged to substitute ribbons instead. Since learning that that flag "with its ribbons flying in the breeze" was a distinctive feature of the war, our regret has changed to the greatest satisfaction. It was not the regulation size, and the stars were not placed in conformity to rule, but the regiment which gave it honor was not itself conducted on the "red tape" plan, and that regiment was the one which won the war. As it has been well said, "they were not soldiers, but fighters."

Miss Flora Mills, at that time our youngest member, was selected to make the presentation speech. However, instead of returning this way, the troops were sent over the northern route. Tuesday evening the governor took the flag to Prescott, and there met Mr. Mayhew, and

presentation address. It now seems almost prophetic. In part she said: "Our hope is that it may never do other duty than 'rustle peacefully above your heads, a silent token of your respect and regard, but should necessity require, we are confident that in brave hands it will lead to success, and in the hours of trial will be, wherever it shall wave, the signal of victory. Into your hands we now place it, and God grant that the need of tralling it in blood may never arise, but should duty or your country call, we know it will wave over the heads of brave men."

Captain McCintock accepted it for the Arizona column, and they carried it with them to San Antonio, as their headquarters. The colors were used in the high winds, it was little used at San Antonio. The regimental colors had not yet arrived, and at Tampa, McCintock and his men distinguished themselves in the Indian campaigns in Arizona and New Mexico, and were allowed to use the Arizona flag until the colors should be received. McCintock and his men would be proud to have the flag so used, and from that time until the regiment returned from Cuba, the colors were used against the enemy standard. It was the first flag raised on Cuban soil by the invading army. In his history during the Cuban campaign, McCintock writes, "The following is a letter written at Santiago de Cuba by Albert P. Wright, color-sergeant of the Rough Riders, to the Quartermaster's Recd Corps, under date of July 28, 1898."

It was the first United States national flag hoisted on Cuban soil by the invading army, which was done at 5:20 p. m. of June 22nd, ultimo. It was constantly in the firing line at the memorable battle of Quasimas, where the Arizona troops especially distinguished themselves for valor and gallantry. The flag was made of a deadly, well directed fire from rapid fire guns and securely entrenched riflemen using the improved Mauser rifles. At Quasimas the flag came out bearing the scars of six Mauser bullets and somewhat rent by the underbrush that rendered it very difficult for our soldiers so much more difficult.

"The victory was as well a complete one as a brilliant one and the flag floated proudly over the breastworks of the enemy, although exhibiting the scarred folds.

"Again at the battle of San Juan, the outer fortifications of Santiago de Cuba, the flag was in the charges of the Rough Riders and with the gallant 3rd and 10th regulars helped to make history that will always be memorable in volunteer courage and devotion to our common country.

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ed by weather and vegetation than when you gave it to the Arizona column at Prescott. It floats at all times when the regiment is in camp over the quarters of our colonel, Theodore Roosevelt, and whatever the future movements of the regiment may be, let me assure you that it shall be faithfully guarded, as every man in the regiment devoutly reverences it and feels grateful to the ladies of your association for the gift of the same.

"I have the distinguished honor of being color sergeant of the regiment and have never lost sight of the flag since we embarked at Port Tampa." "The flag that was with you in battle, and an emblem of victory was this flag used. It had a sadder more tender mission. At the grave of Captain Capron, it represented woman's love, and woman's tears. But it was with you in battle, and in those azure field he so ardently desired to see a new star, was not present at the burial service of our own brave Captain O'Neill. It had a sadder mission, to perform and was waving the funeral dirge. It is as he would have wished. We doubt not that he, could he have spoken, would like Captain Capron, have directed his men to march on to the front, and leave him to die, as he had his life, to the cause."

"Sleep on, brave heart, whether under Cuban skies or in our own loved land. Idle is it for us to inquire why your life should have gone so peacefully, when life was brightest, but no man's life is so precious as that of a man who lives to save a man who dies for his fellowman and in the advancement of liberty. We cherish the hope that the flag, under whose folds you fought, and in sight of which you died, may yet wave, a silent requiem to your grave."

—Your loved Arizona.

Prior to the loss of the Maine our country had entered upon a pessimistic era. The days of heroes and heroic actions seemed to have passed. The country appeared to be one vast concourse of money getters, devoted to sordid pursuits. But as "one touch of nature makes the whole kin," so one spark kindled by the attack on the Maine set afire the flame of patriotism until the whole country was aglow. North, south, east and west united in the common cause. The millionaire and laborer enlisted and marched side by side to the combat. Helen Gould and the woman who toiled for her "half dead, what she could." We have learned that.

"Not only around our infancy
Doth Heaven with all its splendors
lie;
Daily, with souls that cringe and
plot
We Sinners climb and know it not."

Party lines were obliterated; we had one undivided country. The situation was aptly described by J. C. Goodwin, a returned Rough Rider, when he said, "I enlisted a democrat, I return an American."

Many of our Arizona boys won

special honors. Wright of Yuma, carried the flag in every battle, and in company with Maj. La Motte, a surgeon of the regiment, was the first man to hoist it in Cuba. Campbell of Tempe and Truman of Florence were first to reach the summit of San Juan hill. For bravery in

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attle, Greenwald of Prescott was appointed a lieutenant on the field. Foster of Bisbee captured a Spanish flag on San Juan Hill. But Briggs Goodrich of Phoenix, of Troop C, distinguished himself by deserting from

After the passage of the bill creating the bureau of the legislature set aside \$41,000 for its operation, but the printing of the general appropriation bill was cut to \$8,000.

The bill provided for a chief, five investigators and a stenographer. No money was provided for rent, interpretation or for the cost of the stenographer. She pulled out of her own pocket \$100 a month for the rent of the office, and the world has become so great that six or eight persons are needed for the office.

There are many cases involving aliens have been heard.

able to reach the firing line. "No, it isn't a paying job, that is, a prisoner, and his colonel regretted that to salary," Miss Kellor said, "but he did not bring more of the men wouldn't give it up for anything. The work is too important, and I believe th

When the regiment returned to Outlook Point, the regimental colors were received and Lieutenant Colonel Rodde claimed the battle-scarred flag as the property of the Arizona column. After much discussion he was permitted to retain it and returned it to the governor to become Arizona's most precious treasure. It does not look like the gay, cherry flag which the boys carried away from them that bright May day, but has gained a greater glory. It is being baptized with the blood of roses, and is symbolic of the unflinching patriotism of an undivided

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When Governor Hughes appointed Frances A. Kellor chief investigator of the state department of labor and immigration last fall, at a salary of \$2,500 a year, the politicians wagged their heads and murmured, "Preposterous," says the New York Evening World. They will comment differently when Governor Hughes appoints

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